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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [KISL](#) [PINR](#) [SG](#)
SUBJECT:TIDJANE BROTHERHOOD: TIVAOUANE OPENLY
CRITICIZES WADE

REFTEL: 04 DAKAR 2201

CLASSIFIED BY POLITICAL COUNSELOR ROY L. WHITAKER, FOR
REASONS 1.4 (B) and (D)

¶1. (SBU) The Tidjanes of Tivaouane, long privately uncomfortable at President Wade's open obeisance to his own Mouride Brotherhood Khalif, are now speaking out openly. At the annual Tidjane Youth rally, spokesman Abdou Aziz Sy, Junior, deplored government inattention and neglect of Tidjanes. Two months earlier, in a "short and undiplomatic" face-off with Prime Minister Macky Sall, the austere and widely respected Tidjane scholar and diplomat Serigne Mbaye Sy Mansour reportedly charged that favoritism toward Mourides constituted pandering for political gain and posed a risk to national stability.

¶2. (C) The 2006 Youth Rally seemed more boisterous than in 2005, when there was grumbling that Wade had dropped observant Tidjane Idrissa Seck from the Cabinet but little coherent political message. This year, Junior seemed to be preparing for the 2007 campaign, and Wade, in what some saw as deliberate provocation, sent as his stand-in Seck's bitter enemy Minister of Agriculture Farba Senghor. The crowd greeted Farba with a low hum, which among courteous Tidjanes equates to the raspberries, but he managed to eke out a bit of sympathy by recalling that decades ago, Junior helped oppositionist Wade when he needed money.

¶3. (C) Junior has been alerting us for a year that Tidjane patience with Wade has its limits, and as the leading but contested candidate to succeed his Khalif, he must think it imperative to get in front of and channel growing Tidjane resentments. Mbaye Sy Mansour, though, has no such ambitions but has lamented to us privately that he considers Wade's government uninterested in the general welfare and open to corruption. Outspokenness in Tivaouane, as well as signs of discontent in the independent Tidjane center of Kaolack (septel) could signal an energetic Tidjane role in 2007 elections. Senegal has more Tidjanes than Mourides; so both Wade and Seck will consider their electoral clout and possibly court them as the elections approach.

JACKSON